

BOX PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Peeyush Ranjan

Attorney Docket No.: INFS117957

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MATCHING AN INCIDENT TO A ROUTE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Seattle, Washington 98101

October 25, 2001

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment into the patent application filed herewith, which is continuation of prior U.S. Patent Application No. 09/495,812:

In the Specification:

Amend the specification by inserting the following new section on page 1 after the title:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a continuation of prior United States Patent Application No. 09/495,812, filed February 1, 2000, priority from the filing date of which is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 120, and the foregoing application is incorporated herein by reference.

In the Claims:

Cancel Claims 1-65 and add new Claims 66-81 as shown below:

66. (New) A method of determining if an incident is on a travel route, the method comprising:

generating regions of interest surrounding each of a plurality of segments of the travel route;

determining that the incident is within one region of interest; and

determining that the incident is on the travel route.

67. (New) The method of Claim 66, wherein said incident comprises coordinates

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indicating a location.

68. (New) The method of Claim 67, wherein said coordinates comprise a longitude value and a latitude value.

69. (New) The method of Claim 66, wherein each segment has a dynamically generated region of interest surrounding the segment at a distance.

70. (New) The method of Claim 66, wherein the dynamically generated regions of interest are substantially elliptical.

71. (New) The method of Claim 66, wherein each of said dynamically generated regions of interest have perimeters where distances to end points of each of said segments are substantially uniform.

72. (New) The method of Claim 71, wherein each of said distances are dynamically increased in relation to the length of said segments.

73. (New) The method of Claim 72, wherein said distances are increased by half the average length of said segments.

74. (New) The method of Claim 66, wherein said incident comprises coordinates indicating a plurality of locations.

75. (New) The method of Claim 74, wherein said coordinates comprise longitude values and latitude values.

76. (New) The method of Claim 66, wherein determining that the incident is on the travel route further comprises determining that said location is within a threshold distance to a segment of the travel route.

77. (New) The method of Claim 74, wherein determining that the incident is on the travel route further comprises determining that said locations are all within a threshold distance to any segment of the travel route.

78. (New) The method of Claim 66, wherein the plurality of segments are dynamically determined by generating the travel route comprising said segments once a request has been made for the travel route.

79. (New) The method of Claim 78, wherein dynamically generating said regions of interest surrounding each of said segments comprises dynamically forming a substantially elliptical region of interest around each of said segments.

80. (New) A computer readable medium, containing computer executable interactions for performing any of the methods of Claims 66-79.

81. (New) A computing apparatus, operative to perform the methods of any of Claims 66-79.

In the Abstract:

Delete the entire Abstract on page 29, beginning at line 3, and replace with the following.

The present invention provides a method and system for depicting an online map of a route along with any incidents on the route. To create the map, a consumer first provides the origination and destination addresses of the route, then a proposed route is provided for their approval. The consumer may modify the proposed route or accept it. Next, the route is analyzed to determine if any incidents have occurred upon it. This analysis comprises preparing the route by creating regions of interest around segments composing the route, examining if any traffic incidents fall within one or more of the regions of interest, and determining for those incidents if the incident is closer than a threshold value to any segment on the route. The final route along with any incidents on the route is then depicted for the consumer.

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment to the specification sets forth the claim of priority made in the present application. The new claims are supported by the specification and claims as originally filed. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the applicant's attorney with any questions at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE OCTOBER 25, 2001

In the Specification:

A new section entitled "Cross-Reference to Related Application" has been added on page 1 after the title.

In the Claims:

Claims 1-65 have been cancelled.

New Claims 66-81 have been added.

In the Abstract:

The entire Abstract on page 29, beginning at line 3 has been replaced.

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